

Fort Carson DECAM Partners

Partnering with agencies outside the fence line is becoming an increasingly crucial part of Fort Carson being able to get the job done, securing the mission and sustaining the future. Military installations, in the past, operated as independent communities, but linking efforts and resources with off post entities has become more critical to ensure efficiency and promote better integration of military members with the local communities. The Fort Carson DECAM is proactive in pursuing and creating new partnerships. Some of the diverse partnerships are listed below:

Key Installation Organizations

- Directorate of Public Works
- Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security
- G3
- Directorate of Community Activities
- Public Affairs Office
- Staff Judge Advocate
- Other Installation Organizations

Other Defense Organizations

- Northwest Region Installation Management Agency
- Army Environmental Center
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Area Military Installations/Organizations

Other Federal Agencies

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. National Park Service
- Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Geological Survey
- U.S. Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Wildlife Services

State Agencies

- Colorado Division of Wildlife
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Colorado Division of Water Resources
- Other Colorado Agencies

Native American Tribes

Tribal organizations that may be consulted with include:

- Apache Tribe of Oklahoma,
- Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma,
- Comanche Nation,
- Jicarilla Apache Nation,
- Kiowa Nation,
- Northern Arapaho Tribe,
- Northern Cheyenne Tribe,
- Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation,

- Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma,
- Shoshone Tribe (Eastern Band),
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe,
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribe,
- Wichita and Affiliated Tribes of Oklahoma,

Universities and Colleges

- Colorado State University and Texas A&M University have supported research for biological control and alternative control of noxious weeds, range management/monitoring, forest inventories, and wildlife management/monitoring and surveys.
- Colorado State University, Utah State University, Colorado State University, Pueblo, University of Denver, Pikes Peak Community College, and Colorado College have supported natural resources management and research initiatives related to wildlife, watershed, and land management at Fort Carson and the PCMS.
- Through a Memorandum of Understanding, Pikes Peak Community College supports range and wildlife projects on Fort Carson and the PCMS.

Other Education/Community Partners:

- University of Colorado at Colorado Springs
- Pikes Peak Community College
- Colorado Springs School District 11
- Fountain/Fort Carson School District 8
- Pikes Peak Sustainable Indicators Project
- Fountain Valley Health Initiative

Municipalities and Counties

Communities adjacent to or in proximity of Fort Carson and the PCMS are positively affected by natural resources management on the installations. Fort Carson and the PCMS provide opportunities for general public hunting, fishing, and other recreation.

The 7th ID and Fort Carson has cooperative agreements with the Colorado Springs Fire Department and El Paso County to provide mutual aid for the suppression of wildland fires on Fort Carson and surrounding area. The 7th ID and Fort Carson is part of the Fountain Creek Watershed Management Taskforce of the Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments as well as other cooperative ventures that are established to deal with regional natural resources issues. The Upper Arkansas Weed Management Cooperative, an organization of eight southern Colorado counties, was formed to expedite and coordinate weed management efforts between agencies in the Upper Arkansas River drainage. The DECAM will share information, particularly the location of weed infestations, with this organization to facilitate the development of a regional weed control strategy.

Fort Carson Energy partners:

- Colorado Springs Utilities and the
- National Renewable Energy Laboratory
- Western Area Power Administration

A few of Fort Carson's other partners include nonprofit agencies such as:

- The Catamount Institute
- Natural Capitalism Solutions
- The Nature Conservancy
- Colorado Natural Heritage Program

- Clear Cities

Other Interested Parties

- The 7th ID and Fort Carson used the expertise of The Colorado Nature Conservancy and Colorado Natural Heritage Program in the development of management plans for rare plants and animals on Fort Carson and the PCMS.
- DECAM personnel cooperate with the local chapter of The Audubon Society on annual Christmas counts.
- A Cooperative Agreement between the Army, Fort Carson and The Nature Conservancy facilitates the ACUB program on Fort Carson and the PCMS.
- A Cooperative Agreement with the USFWS, Colorado Natural Heritage Program and Fort Carson facilitates the Army's Sensitive and Rare Species (SARS) on Fort Carson and the PCMS.
- The 7th ID and Fort Carson natural resources program is certified with the Wildlife Habitat Council.
- The Southern Rockies Carnivore Restoration Project has an interest in the issue of coyote control for swift fox management at the PCMS.
- The Director, DECAM has served on the Board of Directors of the National Wildlife Federation, becoming its Chair.
- The Director, DECAM serves on the Board of Directors of the National Wildlife Action, which coordinates closely with the National Wildlife Federation.
- The Director, DECAM has served on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Wildlife Federation, becoming its President.
- The Director, DECAM has served on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Chapter of The Wildlife Society, becoming its President.
- The Chief, Natural and Cultural Resources Division chairs the Natural Resources Technology Advisory Board at Pikes Peak Community College.
- School Districts 8 and 11 utilize Fort Carson as an outdoor learning center.
- Partners in Flight collaborates on migratory bird conservation and general bird conservation activities.
- The Colorado Native Plant Society uses Fort Carson and the PCMS for field trips.
- The Chief, Natural and Cultural Resources Division serves on the Rangeland Assessment and Monitoring Committee for the Society for Rangeland Management.
- The Chief, Natural and Cultural Resources Division serves on the Central Shortgrass Ecoregional Assessment Steering Committee.
- The Chief, Natural and Cultural Resources Division serves on the Arkansas Interbasin Compact Committee, established by House Bill 05-1177; Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act.
- The Colorado College Biology Department regularly uses Fort Carson and the PCMS for field trips and research projects.
- The DECAM has partnered with the Colorado Open Lands to facilitate regional management efforts by implementation of the Peak-to-Prairie initiative.